The People's Korea

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Premier Kang Attends Soviet Party Congress

DPRK Premier Kang Song San, heading a delegation of the Workers' Party of Korea, attended the 27th Congress of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union, which opened on February 25.

The delegation members are Hwang Jang Yop, Member, and Secretary, of the WPK Central Committee, Choe Mun Son, Member of the WPK Central Committee and Chief Secretary of the North Hwanghae Provincial Party Committee, and Kwon Hui Gyong, Alternate Member of the WPK Central Committee and DPRK Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary to the Soviet Union.

Defence Min. Sends Message to Soviet Counterpart

O Jin U, Minister of the People's Armed Forces, sent a conglaturatory message to Soviet Minister of Defence S.L. Sokolov on the occasion of the 68th anniversary of the founding of the Soviet Army.

Here is a gist of his message:

Over the past 68 years the Soviet Army firmly defended the socialist motherland from the offensive of all counter revolutionary forces at home and abroad and the fascist aggression and has grown to be invincible armed ranks.

Today the Soviet Army has become a mighty defender for checking the arms buildup of the U.S.-led imperialists, averting the danger of a new world war, thermonuclear war and guaranteeing world peace and security.

The traditional relations of friendship and cooperation between the armies of the two countries will continue to develop and strengthen in the struggle against imperialism and for the realization of the common ideal of building socialism and communism.

DPRK: Dictators Destined for Tragic Downfall

The downfall of the pro-U.S. Marcos dictatorial regime and the appearance of the Corazon Aquino government have ushered in a new phase in the Philippine situation, says Rodong Sinmun in a signed commentary dated Feb. 28.

This is the first comment from Pyongyang on the Philippine situation.

Viewing Marcos' ousting as an inevitable outcome of his own acts, the commentary stresses any dictator who trifles with the people's destiny and reigns over the people with a high hand, antagonizing them, are destined to meet such a disgraceful end.

Stating that those who make a mockery of the people's destiny, serve imperialism and brandish the fascist club are doomed to tragic destruction, it says:

With no amount of suppression and crafty trick can the fascist dictator rejected by the popular masses be saved.

The United States which had sided with Marcos abandoned him, a useless stooge, when the scale turned in his disfavor.

Ngo Dinh Diem, Somoza, Pahlavi, Duvalier, Pak Jung Hi and other dictators who earned themselves ill fame as placemen of the United States, staking their fate on its bayonet and dollars, met their doom without exception.

With the pro-U.S. Marcos dictatorial regime falling, there remain now the south Korean puppet and a tiny number of his ilk. It is only too clear that their fate cannot be otherwise.

Chon Du Hwan is a fascist tyrant far outdistancing the defunct dictators of other countries.

Now Chon Du Hwan is suppressing the just struggle of the people at the point of the bayonet. But, as history shows, his position will be reversed tomorrow.

The lesson of the Philippine situation is that the strength of the people is great, inexhaustible and invincible and when they rise up, the stronghold of fascist dictatorship can be destroyed and the dictators, stooges of imperialism, can never escape their doom.

Chon Could Be New Marcos, Warn U.S. Newspapers

Editorials in major U.S. newspapers drew south Korea's political parallels with the Philippines and warned that south Korea could be "another Philippines."

The New York Times said in the Feb. 26 editorial Marcos' demise had not gone unnoticed by south Korea's strongman Chon Du Hwan whose "government" has clamped down on opposition leaders campaigning for a constitutional amendment for election reforms before the 1988 presidential election. **(See Times editorial on Page 8)**

It said south Korea's political parallels with the Marcos-run Philippines could lead to the same upheaval that exiled Marcos after his 20-year presidency.

"In democracies, petition drives are not treated as subversive. Demands for the direct election of the president are not put down as revolutionary. Nonviolent opponents are not locked into their homes. Peaceful marchers are not swept from the streets by battalions of police. Observing the fate of another arbitrary ruler, President Chun seems to have been pursuaded to reexamine his policies," it stressed.

The Washington Post called the recent crackdown on political foes by Chon Du Hwan "foolish." **(See Post editorial on page 8)**

"The problem in Seoul does not lie in the opposition's understandable insistence on breaking into the closed political system devised by the military. It lies in the military's forceful imposition of a political structure that does not fit the requirements of an increasingly confident, prosperous and mature society," it added.

It also said, "Going along with the status quo may be bringing new uncertainty anyway."

The conservative U.S. News & World Report said in a "Worldgram" column, "More heavy-handedness on Chun's part in the future is bound to chill South Korea-American relation." **(March 3, 1986)**

Meanwhile, two Americans in their comment to The New York Times urged President Reagan to appoint a special envoy with the stature of a Philip Habib "to discuss prospects for democracy with south Korean democratic leaders, human rights monitors and student leaders." **(See their Comment on pages 1 and 8)**

Two Americans Urge Reagan To Promote Democracy In Seoul

By Eric Schwartz and Holly Burkhalter

WASHINGTON – Although world attention now focuses on the Philippines, a similar drama is being played out in south Korea, another East Asia country of comparable strategic importance to the United States. The difference is that while President Ferdinand E. Marcos was trying to steal an election after the votes had been counted, President Chun Doo Hwan seems determined to prevent a popular election from taking place.

Elections are scheduled to take place in 1988. Under the Constitution imposed by Mr. Chun after he seized power in a 1980 military coup, the president is chosen by an electoral college whose members are chosen by the public from a list approved by the government. Electoral college members need not vote according to the preferences of South Korean citizens, and South Korean democrats justifiably fear that the deck is stacked against them.

Although south Korean law expressly provides for the right of petition, Mr. Chun has cracked down on those advocating electoral reform. On Feb. 12, the opposition leader Kim Dae Jung was placed under house arrest for the 10th time since returning home from exile a year ago; this time, his phone lines were disconnected and visitors were prevented from entering his home. Mr. Kim's offense was collecting signatures on a petition to revise the Constitution.

The police placed nearly 300 members of the New Korea Democratic Party, the nation's largest elected opposition party, under house arrest last Thursday (Feb. 20). The opposition politicians, who include a prominent activist, Kim Young Sam, had planned to meet in Seoul to promote the signature campaign. On Feb. 4, 252 students were arrested on the campus of Seoul National University for attending a rally for this campaign.

The authorities confiscated copies of an opposition party publication, New Democratic Front, which contained articles advocating constitutional change and excerpts from a Kim Dae Jung speech criticizing Mr. Chun's opposition to revision. The government further demonstrated its intolerance by announcing that the simple act of signing a petition is a punishable offense.

(Continued on page 8, col. 1)

To Co-host Olympics Is Essential to DPRK's Participation

The co-hosting of the forthcoming 1988 Olympic Games by north and south Korea and the formation of a joint team are prerequisites to Pyongyang's participation in the international event, said Pak Myong Chol, vice chairman of the DPRK Olympic Committee.

His remark came at the interview on February 21 with a local Japanese daily in Hokkaido, where the first Winter Asian Games started on March 1.

Mr. Pak arrived in Japan on February 19, heading a DPRK team.

In the interview, he emphasized that the spirit of the Olympiad is peace, sports and friendship exchange, and said that his country desires the merging of north and south Korea athletes into one team and the sharing of the events by the two parts of the divided nation.

If these requirements are met, Pyongyang will participate in the Games, added the vice chairman.

Regarding the coming third meeting of the Olympic officials from Pyongyang and Seoul, he said that its success or failure hinges on how the south Korean side will show sincerity.

Pyongyang and Seoul had two meetings so far in an effort to find a solution to the Olympic problem, following the proposal made by Pyongyang to stave off "a fourth cisis."

Little headway has been made, though.

Meanwhile, leaders of the sports organizations of socialist countries gathered in Budapest, Hungary and expressed unanimous support for the co-hosting overture, reported KCNA quoting the Cuban paper Granma dated February 20.

The supporters said that the proposal was a just one and would be conducive to the reunification of Korea and also to global peace.

The paper also pointed out that Havelange, president of the International Football Federation, at a press conference held on February 19, said if the International Olympic Committee accepted the proposal for holding the 24th Olympic Games in the two parts of Korea, his federation would accept it with pleasure and that the co-hosting of the Games would contribute to the relaxation of tension in this region.

Stories on Mr. Kim Jong Il (2)

"I Am Also a Son of the Working People."

(Continued from No. 1,278 issue)

Kim Jong Il displayed extraordinary sincerity during his university days, going deeply into the people, learning from and working among the popular masses.

To him, the people were a teacher and the reality was another university.

Any person who was isolated from the people in practice as well as ideologically and who turned his eyes from the reality, meant nothing to him. He always held not that there were learning and theory on the one side, and the reality and the people on the other, but that there was learning in the reality, which brought benefits to the people.

His work during the practical lesson according to the university curriculum in April 1961 at the Pyongyang Textile Machinery Works was an example to show his attitude to the reality.

From the very day when he began to work at the factory, he always worked in order to learn as much as possible from the work.

He was the first to appear at the factory, and swept not only the workplace but also the gardens around the factory. During work hours, he helped the mechanics in charge of him and worked hard at the machine. During noon recess, he sat on a bench in the rest room together with the workers and opened his lunch box with them. Those that went with rice in his lunch box were very simple, usually garlics pickled in soy sauce and sometimes a dried flatfish.

Waiting for a bus on his way home after a day's work, he talked with workers also on their way home, considering conversations with them to be a good chance to learn from the reality. His sincere efforts made it possible for him to achieve surprising results in the practical lesson.

In the cutting of accessories, Kim Jong Il worked twice as fast as skilled workers. This work speed of his kicked off a new movement to set new work norms. Greatly interested in technical research, he invented a technical innovation which could double efficiency. It was introduced into the production process, causing a technical innovation movement to spread.

Furthermore, during the practical lesson, Kim Jong Il learned from his work every minute of it. He took special interest in and studied the production organization of the factory, labor management, technical development and enterprise management. To Kim Jong Il, who majored in economics in the university, these were important subjects of study. There were a lot of problems he had to study, including the operation of the law of value, consumption and distribution under socialism, factory control and management. He obtained information generally on the actual conditions of these problems and enriched his knowledge he had learned in the university.

In the course of concretely studying the actual conditions of technology and equipment, he realized that a raised utilization rate of equipment was one way of raising the productive forces, and showed an example in his practical work.

This happened on an equipment inspection day. Mechanics were busy at work cleaning and adjusting their machines. Kim Jong Il, together with the mechanic who was in charge of him, cleaned the No. 26 turning lathe carefully, and he approached the machine next to his with oil cloth in hand. The machine had been cleaned and was shiny. Touching the machine with a smile, he happened to turn its handle and noticed that the handle was unexpectedly heavy. He asked the mechanic why it was so, and the mechanic replied unconcernedly that the machine had no oil hole.

Kim Jong Il examined the machine, while turning the handle again, and removed oil and dust around the shaft with a driver. Then, he found a small oil hole. He did another three holes. The mechanic opened her eyes wide in amazement to see what she had not expected at all.

Kim Jong Il said with a smile that machines had oil holes where they were required to be oiled and that only those who knew this could maintain their machines well, urging the mechanic to pour oil into the oil holes and turn the handle. Turning the handle smoothly with her hand, she was very much pleased and at the same time was surprised at Kim Jong Il's knowledge of machinery.

Kim Jong Il said to her in a friendly manner:

"Other mechanics may be cleaning and maintaining their machines without a knowledge of mechanism. How about strengthening the equipment inspection and proposing to start a model machine movement? If you take the lead and call others to join such a movement, there will be an innovation in the equipment control in this workshop."

Secretary Kim Jong Il participating in the Ryongsong road construction work in his university days (fourth from left, second row)

Influenced by a practical example shown by Kim Jong Il and heartened by his sincerity, the mechanic made increased efforts to maintain her machine and after a while came to be known as a model mechanic. The example shown by the mechanic developed into a collective "model machine movement", which came to involve not only the workteam and the workshop but also the entire factory.

In this way, the practical lesson Kim Jong Il received at the factory did not end merely in his personal experience but resulted in making the workers there rise in a creative innovation movement. Later, Kim Jong Il went more deeply into the masses and continued to accumulate his experience broadly in the reality of the country.

In those days, the working people in all provinces of the country were in a state of ebullience and were enthusiastic about the implementation of the Seven-Year Plan for the Development of the National Economy, presented by President Kim Il Sung at the Fourth Congress of the Workers' Party of Korea. The main task of the plan was to carry out a technical revolution and a cultural revolution fully and remarkably raise the living standard of the people, relying on the socialist system established through a socialist transformation of the relations of production. Particularly in the industrial sector, a grandiose task was presented to introduce modern technology and realize socialist industrialization.

Kim Jong Il spent a lot of time to study the reality of his fatherland which was being changed daily by the struggle of the people to carry out this grand task. He went out to factories inside Pyongyang and farming villages near the city not only during the summer vacation but also whenever opportunities were offered. Furthermore, he crossed the Huchi Pass 1,400 meters above sea level to visit Pungsan in Ryanggang Province and visited the Ryongsong Machine Factory and the Vinalon Factory under construction in Hamhung. He also made a tour of many parts of the country, including the Supung Power Station, the Nampo Smeltery, and the Hwanghae Iron Works. When he met his classmates who had spent their vacation in their native places, he did not forget to obtain detailed information on the actual conditions of the places and the real aspects of life there. In this way, he endeavored to get a general picture of the economic conditions of the country.

While accumulating and deepening his experience among the masses, Kim Jong Il familiarized himself with the wishes and demands of the masses, and formed a Juche-oriented view of the masses for himself.

Wherever and whenever he was, he did not consider himself different from the masses, but regarded work for the people as his supreme duty, and devoted himself to the work of fulfiling this duty powerfully and enthusiastically.

It was when he was engaged in the construction work to broaden the Wasandong-Ryongsong road. While digging a ditch, one of his classmates broke a shovel which he had borrowed from a worker. The shovel was very old. As suggested by Kim Jong Il, the student went to a warehouse of tools, and brought a new shovel handle. The student said happily that that was a case of good out of evil. Kim Jong Il shaved the new handle with his knife to make it easy to use. He said that however new the handle was, it was not better than the old handle which the worker had been using, and continued:

"There are lots of things, big and small, that we have to do. But there is no difference in size in the sincerity with which we have to do things for the people. We must do things for the people with utmost sincerity, however small they may be. Let us become true servants of the people."

To Kim Jong Il, the popular masses were the most precious existence. Creation and construction were meaningless to him without the people, and there were pride and happiness in his struggle and life with the people. The people were synonymous with all-conquering power and beauty.

According to Kim Jong Il, the people were like the good earth. The earth is silent, simple, warm and industrious. How broad, powerful and bounteous the earth is that begets everything. Life is unthinkable without the earth. Because of this, people call the earth the Mother Earth. The ancient myth that an invincible general was defeated the instant he lifted his feet from the earth, tells this truth.

The popular masses were the master of history and society, and its propelling force. The most powerful and the wisest in the world were the people.

Early in his life, Kim Jong Il considered the people to be the supreme being and bore it in his mind that to serve them was his highest honor, and did everything in his power for the purpose.

This also happened during the expansion work on the Wasandong-Ryongsong road.

When the rest time was about to be over, an old woman appeared on the construction site with a scoop in her hand to pick coal. Sometimes coal was dug out on the construction site, and so people in the neighbourhood were seen to come there to pick coal.

When the work started, and machines began to be operated again, one of his classmates told the old woman to get out of the work site, saying to her that it was dangerous for her to be there. But the woman would not listen to his words, saying that she had come all the way from her home to the place to pick coal. Seeing this, Kim Jong Il greeted her and heard from the classmate what was the matter with her. After hearing his classmate explain the situation, Kim Jong Il asked the old woman gently.

"Have you run short of coal?"

But the woman's reply was unexpected. She said that she had come there not because he had run short of coal, but because she thought that it was a big waste to leave precious coal buried underground.

As he heard the old woman, nodding many times, a look of emotion appeared on face. What a wonderful old woman she was! He was moved by the woman who regarded state property as something precious as her own personal property. A bucketful of coal or two did not look so important. Her home had enough coal supplied by the state. But the old woman considered coal buried at the construction site as an important national resource. Many a little pickle makes a mickle. Even if the amount of coal was small, the country would become the richer if it was saved. If one threw away coal or wasted cotton yarn however little it might be, the country would be the poorer for it.

This seemed to be what the old woman appealed to them for, and it was because of this that old as she was, she had come with a bucket.

Kim Jong Il said to the old woman and his classmate in a voice full of emotion as follows:

"This old woman is right. We should not leave precious coal buried in the ground, discarding it is of no value. We have to learn from the people in this respect, too. Let us allow people in the neighborhood to come here and pick coal to take it home."

He was in thought for a while, and then said to the classmates:

"Let us scrape earth a little with a bulldozer, and dig coal with a steam shovel, and move coal to a safe place so that people may take it safely. We should do this, even if this may cause some inconvenience to our work. If we shorten our rest time a little, we can serve the people though in a humble way."

His classmates were moved by Kim Jong Il's words. He went to the bulldozer and steam shovel drivers and asked them to do the work. The bulldozer scraped earth and the stem shovel dug coal and a heap of coal appeared before them. Looking at the heap of coal, Kim Jong Il took the old woman there and scooped coal with her small shovel and put it in her bucket, while speaking to the old woman in a pleasant tone. How many members were there in her family? What were her son and his wife? How much were their incomes? How was their life? Was it difficult or not? At Kim Jong Il put these questions to her in a familiar tone, the old woman also asked him questions.

"But what in the world is the purpose of this big construction work?"

To this question, Kim Jong Il spoke with gestures about the prospect for the grandiose construction work. The old woman tapped her knee, rejoicing to hear his words. Then, Kim Jong Il began to walk with her bucket in his hand. She tried to take the bucket from him, not willing to trouble him so much, but Kim Jong Il did not hear her, but walked on up the slope.

When he parted with her, the old woman thanked him repeatedly, but Kim Jong Il said with a smile, "It is a very good thing to hold coal valuable even if the amount is very small. I learned a very precious thing from you today." He said these words from the bottom of his heart.

(Continued on page 3)

Vegetable Greenhouse Under Construction at Foot Of Mt. Paekdu

A modern vegetable greenhouse extending 20 hectares is under construction in the Nampotae district, Samjiyon county, at the foot of Mt. Paekdu, Korea.

The area of Lake Samji including Mt. Paekdu, the holy mountain of revolution, is a great open-air museum for the education of the working people in the revolutionary traditions.

Tens of thousands of working people and youth and students visit the revolutionary battle sites and historic sites there every year.

The annual average temperature in the area of Lake Samji is 1 or 2 degrees centigrade, the lowest in Korea.

Taking into account the features of the tableland where temperature is low, the greenhouse will be built so as to be suitable to growing vegetables seasonally, divided into seedling hothouses, early spring hothouses, summer hothouses, etc.

The greenhouse will grow cabbage, radish, spinach, tomato, red pepper and cucumber and do three-crop farming a year.

The builders are now waging a vigorous drive to complete over 60 modern hothouses, each extending 300 square metres within the first quarter of the year.

The seedling hothouses and three early spring hothouses have already been completed.

Now Pyongyang has a hothouse farm with an area of about 50 hectares and large hothouse farms are found in various parts of the country such as Sonbong county in North Hamgyong Province, Wonsan in Kangwon Province and Paechon county in South Hwanghae Province, which supply fresh vegetables to the people in winter, too.

Successes in Fisheries

The cannery of the Sinpo Fishery Complex is increasing the production of canned goods 1.5 times days.

Photo shows a landing place of fishes at the complex.

Boost in Production of Processed Fish

Korea is boosting the production of processed fish.

Recently the production of frozen fish has risen 1.4 times, salted fish 2 times, dried fish 1.6 times and pickles 1.2 times as compared with the same period of last year.

Many fish processing bases including refrigerating plants with a rated capacity of tens of thousands of tons each and a cannery with a capacity of 100,000 tons have been built on the east and west coasts of Korea.

Refrigerating and processing plants are raising the proportion of frozen fish, keeping pace with big hauls of fish.

Refrigerating plants in South Hamgyong Province are these days boosting the result of refrigeration 1.8 times as against the same period of last year.

The cannery of the Sinpo Fishery Complex is increasing the production of canned goods 1.5 times days.

The fishery stations in Wonsan, Songdowon, Tongchon and Kosong of Kangwon Province are fulfilling their daily fish processing plans at 130 percent by introducing new techniques.

Achievements in Shipbuilding

The shipyard workers under the Ministry of Shipbuilding Industry of Korea are registering remarkable successes in building fishing boats, refrigerator-transports and factory ships.

The assembling of a 5,000-ton refrigerator-transport was completed some time ago and test operations of its various parts began.

The hull construction of a large factory ship has been completed and work has begun for its finishing.

A high processing and assembling speed has been developed in the building of 3,750-ton fishing boats.

The Chongjin and other shipyards under the North Hamgyong Provincial Shipbuilding Complex are working in high gear in the assembling of the fishing boats under construction and newly begun 3,750-ton fishing boats.

Fish-Breeding Scientific Institute

The fish-breeding scientific institute greeted its 40th founding anniversary.

The institute has contributed to the development of the nation's fish breeding work and to the improvement of the people's living in the past 40 years.

Its scientists are accelerating researches to establish a correct breed system, increase the species of fish adapted to the natural conditions of the DPRK and boost the production of fishes, shellfishes and other aquatic products in the fish farm areas with natural feeds.

With the vigorous progress of researches in this domain, Korea's fish farming has made a fast progress.

Over 1,700 reservoirs, big and small, throughout the country including lakes Yonpung, Taesong, Sohung and Unpa serves for large-scale fish-breeding.

(Continued from page 2)

The old woman could hardly find words to express her gratitude for the kindness he had shown her. Kim Jong Il said to her, holding her hands firmly in his.

"I am also a son of the working people.

"I would do anything if it is for the good of the people. There is nothing more important than to work for the people."

There was not only humility but also great pride in his words. A son of the working people meant one of the people and the people themselves. It was quite natural that there was pride in the words of Kim Jong Il who regarded the people as the supreme being, as the ruler of the world.

Therefore, when he was later elected to a leading post, he never for a moment placed himself above the people. He lived with the people, as one of the people and as a son of the people, and never hesitated to do a thing if it was the desire of the people and for the good of the people.

Kim Jong Il could become a true leader of the people because he was a true son of the people.

(From "Great Leader Kim Jong Il" Part I)

EDITORIAL

Stop "Team Spirit 86" War Game

On Mar. 1, the resident Koreans in Japan held a central rally in Tokyo against the U.S.-south Korea joint war game codenamed "Team Spirit 86". The gathering was organized in response to the Pyongyang mass meeting held on Feb. 20.

The Tokyo rally accused the "Team Spirit 86" war rehearsal of having sharpened tension on the Korean Peninsula and scuttled the continued north-south talks temporarily. After the gathering the attendants staged a two-and-half-hour demonstration throughout downtown Tokyo.

The DPRK government and the Korean people have contended that if the U.S. and south Korean authorities respect the peace of Korea and Korean people's demand for territorial reintegration and intend to make efforts for their realization, they should suspend military drills. The presently conducted military drills aim at provoking the DPRK and preparing themselves for a pre-emptive nuclear strike to launch a nuclear war.

If the U.S. and south Korea dare to conduct the joint war game, the DPRK has repeatedly warned, they cannot avoid their responsibilities for all consequences.

Nevertheless, the U.S. and south Korean authorities ignored the DPRK's repeated warnings and started the joint war games as from Feb. 10.

The war exercises are being conducted in the Western Pacific, Okinawa (Japan) and throughout south Korea. The war game is an unpardonable criminal act against the DPRK and the Korean people and a dangerous provocative act against the peace-loving people of the world.

The "Team Spirit 86" war maneuvers involve 200,000 American and south Korean troops, aircraft carrier units belonging to the U.S. 7th Fleet, the 18th tactical fighter unit, the 176th fighter wing, nuclear missiles, B-52 fighter bombers, a large quantities of modern weapons and equipment. The notorious "Green Berets" unit is also among them. All these are reminders of a real military operation on the Korean Peninsula and ominous clouds are hanging over the peninsula.

The Supreme Commander of the Korean People's Army gave orders to all the army and security forces to take a full combat posture and heighten vigilance against the joint war exercises "Team Spirit 86". This is a reasonable self-defensive measure.

Now the international public voices opposition to the provocative military drills by the U.S. and south Korea.

The Koreans are peace-loving people. They have made all-out effort to preserve peace in Korea and bring about a peaceful reunification. Therefore, the DPRK has contributed to the continuation of the north-south talks by taking a positive initiative in the dialogues.

This year is the International Year for Peace. In response to the public opinion of the international community of nations, the U.S. and south Korea should stop immediately the joint war games dubbed "Team Spirit 86" and withdraw all the U.S. troops from south Korea together with their nuclear weapons.

DPRK Diplomatic Conduct in 1985

(Continued from No. 1,277 issue)

Improved Korea-Japan Relations

Improvements were made in Korea-Japan relations. In the wake of the visit of a Japan Socialist Party delegation headed by Chairman Mr. Ishibashi to Korea in September 1984, Japanese delegations and personages representing broad segments of the people visited Korea last year.

Among them were Dan Ikuma, composer, Oda Makoto, writer, Vice President Mushanokoji Kinhidae of the UN University, Yasue Ryosuke, Editor-in-Chief of the monthly magazine"Sekai", a delegation of the Asia Economic Research Institute and so on.

A Japan Socialist Party delegation led by Secretary Mr. Tanabe, visited Korea in May, when President Kim Il Sung had talks with them.

Pointing out that the Japanese government has been taking an unfriendly attitude toward the DPRK, he said that the DPRK welcomes exchanges with progressive Japanese personages and also welcomes personages in economic circles as well. *("Shakai Shinpo", organ of the Japan Socialist Party, dated May 31)*

After his visit to Korea, Mr. Tanabe reported the results of his visit to Prime Minister Nakasone and urged him to dispatch a Korea-visiting delegation of the Liberal Democratic Party *(May 31, the Japanese daily "Yomiuri Shimbun")*

The Japan Socialist Party set it as one of its tasks to realize the visit of a delegation of the WPK to Japan.

On the other hand, various delegations from the DPRK visited Japan. They included a DPRK Olympic committee delegation, staff members of the DPRK film studio, personages concerned with athlete organizations, academic delegations, etc.

On Aug. 29 the first DPRK civil airliner arrived at Narita International Airport carrying more than 120 athletes, who participated in the Universiad in Kobe, Japan.

Noteworthy were the activities of a delegation of the Friendship Association for the Promotion of Korea-Japan Amity headed by its Chairman Kim U Jong. The delegation visited Japan when they met representatives of political circles. They included Watanabe Michio, member of the House of Representatives from the Japan Liberal Democratic Party and Acting Secretary General of the Party, Tamura Hajime, member of the House of Representatives of the LDP, former Prime Minister Miki, former foreign minister Ito and representatives of the Japan Clean Government Party, the New Liberal Club, and the Social Democratic Federation.

The delegation made a request to the leaders of the LDP to visit Korea to increase Japan-Korea exchanges.

President Kim Il Sung Sep. 15 met Mr. Kawakatsu Den, Chairman and President of the Nankai Electric Railway Company, the first Japanese business leader to meet him. He was reported to have repeatedly stressed that economic exchange should be promoted in a careful and realistic manner so that it might not invite a backlash from south Korea, the U.S. or pro-south Korean forces in Japan. *(Sep. 15 Japanese news agency Kyodo report from Pyongyang)*

Statements of Heads of DPRK Delegations For N-S Talks

Delegation for Inter-Korean Parliamentary Talks

Pyongyang February 26 (KCNA)

The delegation of the north side to the preliminary contact for the inter-Korean parliamentary talks in its statement dated February 25 fully supported the order of the Supreme Commander of the Korean People's Army and the statement of the DPRK Foreign Ministry spokesman, saying that they were a sure guarantee for reliably defending the security of the country and, at the same time, an important measure which will make a great contribution to the defence of peace in the world.

The statement says:

The United States and south Korean authorities answered our peace-loving initiative and sincere efforts with a large-scale military provocation. They showed in this way what they want and seek invariably in Korea is only confrontation, tension and war.

As the south Korean authorities are trying to impede the progress of the dialogues with the military exercises and use the dialogues only in hosting the Olympic games and remaining in power, going against the desire and will of all the fellow countrymen, the dialogues are virtually meaningless.

The entire nation can hardly repress indignation at the south Korean authorities seeking a sinister political aim, while paying only lip-service to the dialogues and we do not want such dialogues.

The U.S. imperialists and south Korean authorities must immediately discontinue the adventurous "Team Spirit 86" joint military exercises, bear responsibility for having suspended the north-south dialogues and endangered their fate and make an apology for this.

Delegation for Red Cross Talks

Pyongyang February 24 (KCNA)

The U.S. imperialists and south Korean authorities must bear full responsibility for having suspended all dialogues between the north and the south by starting provocative military exercises and immediately discontinue the reckless military exercises which are incompatible with the dialogues.

The delegation of the Red Cross society of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea declared this in a statement issued on February 23 in support of the order of the Supreme Commander of the Korean People's Army and the statement of the DPRK Foreign Ministry spokesman.

Noting that the U.S. imperialists and south Korean authorities suspended the north-south dialogues at a time and brought them up to the danger of rupture with their "Team Spirit 86" joint military exercises, the statement said:

By holding the large-scale military exercises the U.S. imperialists scheme to throw a wet blanket over the atmosphere of the north-south dialogues and reconciliation, aggravate the confrontation and, using this as a pretext, keep occupying south Korea as ever and, further, perfect nuclear war preparations to execute their Asian strategy with south Korea as a forward base.

The south Korean authorities try to justify their anti-communist confrontation, threaten the popular masses and thereby buttress the military fascist system in the grip of a crisis and realise the "security of power" by rendering the situation in the country strained in subservience to their U.S. masters.

Pointing to the fact that south Korean authorities, synchronising with the "Team Spirit 86" joint military exercises, have launched the wholesale suppression of patriotic students and democratic figures, the statement said: This shows that they have no will to solve the humanitarian problem or the reunification problem through the dialogues but only try to use the dialogues as a means of ensuring their long-term office and getting through the Asian Games and the Olympic games without difficulty.

Availing ourselves of this opportunity, the statement noted, we express the belief that the Red Cross organisations and progressive social organisations in all countries of the world and all the peace-loving people will direct deep attention to the schemes of the U.S. imperialists and south Korean authorities to heighten the tension and ignite a war on the Korean Peninsula and lift up their voices in denunciation of these schemes.

Delegation for Economic Talks

Pyongyang February 22 (KCNA)

The north side's delegation to the north-south economic talks demanded that the U.S. imperialists and the south Korean authorities admit their responsibility for the suspension of the north-south dialogues including economic talks and stop the adventurous "Team Spirit 86" joint military exercises at once.

So says the delegation of our side to the north-south economic talks in a statement Friday (Feb. 21) supporting the order of the Supreme Commander of the Korean People's Army and the statement of the spokesman of the Foreign Ministry of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea.

The order of the Supreme Commander of the Korean People's Army and the statement of the Foreign Ministry spokesman are a legitimate self-defensive measure against possible surprise attack on the part of the U.S. imperialists and the south Korean bellicose elements and an expression of unshakable determination to defend peace in Korea and the security of the world, the statement says, and continues:

The south Korean side in league with outside aggression forces is staging war exercises directed against the dialogue partner, abandoning the on-going dialogue with fellow countrymen, and is pursuing tension and war, while paying lip-service to detent and peace. This is, in fact, an intolerable challenge to the dialogue partner and an unpardonable mockery at the nation.

If the south Korean authorities intend to use dialogue as a means of holding the Asian Games and the Olympiad without a hitch, while rendering the situation of the country to the extreme pitch of strain as a war agent of foreign forces as we see it today, such dialogue will be meaningless and nobody will want to have it.

If they continue to follow the road of confrontation and war, defying our repeated warnings and the unanimous demand of the people at home and abroad, they will bear full responsibility for all the ensuing consequences.

Urgent Call for End to 'Team Spirit 86' and for Withdrawal of U.S. Nuclear Weapons from 'ROK'

To the Editor:

Feb. 21, 1986

We solemnly draw all peace-loving people's attention to the fact that the danger of a nuclear war hovers over the Korean Peninsula.

According to a report made by the Washington-based Center for Defence Information, not less than 661 nuclear war-heads have been deployed in south Korea.

What gives us quite considerable anxiety is the fact that the U.S. and ROK armed forces are launching from Feb. 10 large-scale joint military exercises, for the 10th time, "Team Spirit 86" off and on the coasts of south Korea, costing several tens of millions of dollars, and lasting 2 months!

"Team Spirit" is no less than a nuclear war test against the north Korean people.

The "Team Spirit 86" military exercises involve more than 60,000 U.S. troops and some 140,000 ROK armed forces, totaling more than 200,000 men.

The "Team Spirit 86" is especially grave because it steps up the tension on the Korean Peninsula and obstruct the dialogues between north and south Korea in the International Year of Peace.

Recognizing that the military exercises are a serious threat to the peace and security of the Far East and the world, we demand the following:

1. That the "Team Spirit 86" military exercises be stopped immediately.
2. That all nuclear weapons and U.S. troops be withdrawn from south Korea.
3. That non-nuclear, peace zones be established in the Far East and in every vital area throughout the world.

signed by William Wilson (UK), M.P., DL
David Mcreynolds, Chairperson, WAR RESISTERS' INTERNATIONAL
John Somerville (USA), Prof. Emeritus of Philosophy, City University of New York
Glenn D. Paige (USA), Prof., University of Hawaii
L.C. McFarland (USA), retired reporter
Peter Orrin (UK), Associate Prof., Cambridge University
Ernest Best, "Hiroshima-Nagasaki Relived", Prof., Canada University
Tom Clash (K Canada), church worker
Greg Murray (Australia), researcher
Glenn Hook (UK) lecturer
Charles Philips (USA), peace activist
R. Lawrence (UK), teacher
Didier Wester (France), teacher
Frederic Ebrard (France), researcher
Kearl Harwood (USA), social worker

and 47 others

100 Dissidents Hold Demo. against Chon's Crackdown

Over 100 members of the New Korea Democratic Party held a sit-down and a demonstration on the street on Feb. 20, denouncing the act of the south Korean police in barring them from attending a meeting on the ten million signature-collecting campaign for the amendment of the "constitution," according to a report from Seoul.

More than 20 of them were reportedly taken to the police.

That day dozens of NKDP members clashed with the police in their attempt to hold a meeting protesting suppression in a Seoul park.

They denounced the south Korean authorities move in forestalling the meeting on the signature campaign by frantic repression, putting more than 200 NKDP members under house arrest and surrounding and raiding the head office building of the party and ransacking it.

Intelligence Centre Located in U.S. Embassy In Seoul

It has been disclosed that one of the biggest U.S. intelligence centre in the Far East is located at the U.S. Embassy in Seoul.

According to a south Korean Magazine Wolgan Choson's Feb. issue, the centre occupies the fifth and seventh floors of the U.S. Embassy lined off as "special quarters".

Here James E. Delaney has been commanding operations of the U.S. Central Intelligence Agency since August 1983, with 60 to 100 professional agents, among them "diplomats", "entrepreneus" and "officials" of U.S. institutions.

Contacting field operatives, some of whom are implanted even in dissident political parties and organisations in south Korea, these agents collect information on the situation of the Korean Peninsula and its neighbouring countries and sentiments of the people and supply it to the U.S. C.I.A. headquarters.

10-Yr. Prison Term Demanded For Sammintu Leader

A harsh 10-year imprisonment term was demanded by the prosecution on Feb. 26 for a leading student activist charged with having formed a student body called Sammintu, the Korea Times reported on Feb. 27.

Hoe In Hoe, a Korea University senior and former chairman of the Sammintu or the Sammin Struggle Committee, is also accused of having organized anti-"government" protests on and off campus.

In a hearing held at the Seoul District Criminal Court, prosecutor Ko Yong Ju also sought five-year jail terms for four other Korea University student defendants indicted for their involvement in the "militant" campus group.

The four include Li Chong Hun who drew a three-and-a-half-year term at an appellate trial for his implication in the May 1985 seizure of the U.S. Information Service library in Seoul.

The student defendants have been contending that the prosecution charges lack verity, claiming that the Sammintu has no nationwide structure.

Two Kims Refuse Chon's "Proposal"

Kim Dae Jung and Kim Yong Sam, co-chairmen of the Council for the Promotion of Democracy, on February 25 condemned the scheme of the south Korean authorities not to discuss the question of the "constitutional" amendments till 1989, according to an AP report from Seoul.

At a press conference held after a meeting of the CPD, Kim Dae Jung and Kim Yong Sam dismissed Gen. Chon Du Hwan's "proposal" for holding off debate on changing the "constitution" until 1989 at a "meeting of representatives of three major political parties" held on February 24 as one "not worth consideration".

The two Kims asserted that it was "incomprehensible" to the opposition groups and to the people of all strata that "peaceful" moves toward changing the "constitution" should not be taken up until 1989. They said that the proposal was "not worth serious discussion" and that the opposition position was that the "constitution" must be amended before 1988 so elections that year could be held under a new system.

They said that since Chon "will quit office in 1988", he is "not qualified to talk about 1989." They said the opposition objective is to amend the "constitution", not merely study it.

The two declared that the signature campaign would go on, and would be expanded throughout south Korea. They called again for Gen. Chon to outline a "detailed timetable for democratization" by this spring.

Testimony of S. Korean Torture Victim (2)

(Continued from the previous issue)

During the month of September, from the 4th to the 20th, I was given electric shock and water torture. Each time I was tortured for five hours. Mostly I received electric shock torture; I was forced to drink salt water to make it easier to conduct the electricity. In order to drown out my screams they played the radio loudly. Because I screamed so much my throat swelled so that I could not talk. They wanted to question me so they gave me medicine to clear up my throat. (Kim seems dizzy: he stops, holds onto the rail and rests a moment.) On Sept. 4, I was subjected to two five-hour water torture sessions and on Sept. 5 and 6, I received electric shock and water torture once each day. On the 8th, there were two sessions of electric shock and water torture and on the 10th, one session. On the 13th...a Friday... one of the torturers said to me, "This is the last supper, the last supper before Christ died. It's your funeral." After this threat, I was tortured with electric shocks two more times. (The prosecutor raises an objection. People in the court yell. "Be quiet. Let him continue.") After that, on the 20th, there was one session of electric shock and water torture and on the 25th, I was beaten severely by several men. I wasn't allowed to sleep and I wasn't allowed to eat for at least half the time I was there. Because of the torture, I wasn't able to eat.

Each time they were going to torture me they wouldn't feed me. Then they wouldn't feed me even on days when they did not torture me. This nearly drove me crazy as I kept thinking that torture was coming. On the 8th, at about 10AM, the head of the torture group came into the torture chamber on the fifth floor Room 12, and said, "Put red pepper in his nostrils and [ ] make him into a [ ]. This time I will conduct the torture myself." There was a man who walked around with a bag of torture implements who said to me, "It's a good season for morticians. Do you know how Lee Jae Moon died? He died because his insides crumbled. Do you understand what I'm saying? When there is democracy I'll sit in the torture seat and you can take revenge on me." I was subjected to these kind of barbaric threats and insults and whenever I was tortured, I was stripped naked and my body was tied. I was so cold and my body would shiver violently from the chill. They would hurl sexual insults at me. They would point at my genitals and say, "You call that a penis. People in the movement all look like that." They committed these kinds of atrocities against me, stomping on me and crushing me. Whenever I received torture, my body was tied and I was blindfolded. They would put men on a table with a blanket under me and tie me in fice different places: my ankles, thighs, knees, stomach and chest. They would spray water on my head, chest and crotch so that the electric shocks would be more easily conducted into my body. They would alter the strength of the shock. At first the shock would be short and weak and then longer and stronger and then they would attenuate the length and strength of the shock. During the torture, the shadow of death would come close to me. (Crying is heard in the courtroom: Kim holds back tears as he talks.) At these moments, I would repeat the words to the song "I'd rather die standing than live on my knees." (A flood of tears overwhelms some people in the courtroom: even the guards look solemn.) I understood how hard it is too keep hold of one's convictions. Each time that I was afraid of death, I would be reminded of the Auschwitz concentration camp and shudder in despair at the inhumanity of it all. (A wail comes from someone seated in the courtroom.) That such cruel torture could exist made me think that the seeds of another Kwangju are being sown. I prepared myself to die in that place. When I told this to my torturer, he said, "That means you're not going to talk. Surrender!" The torture wasn't given to me because I rejected making a statement; it was planned from the start. It didn't matter if I made a statement. That is why when they were torturing me, they didn't show any frustration or anger. It was done so cold-heartedly and even with a smile on their faces. As they were torturing me they talked affectionately of their families: "I wonder if my married daughter is well?" "I wonder if my son passed his physical exam?" They talked among themselves about their families. Is it possible that they can conduct such violence and torture and still feel human love for their family? Can such a contradiction exist? I began to lose my hope for humanity.

There was a person among the torturers – I won't tell you his name – who came to me with tears in his eyes and said, "I feel nauseous seeing this torture. Hurry and leave this place. Even if what they ask you to say is false, say it is so. If you stay here, you are going to die." In the end, I just couldn't resist anymore. My whole body was covered with bruises: on the 25th, I gave them the confession they wanted. I knew that if I lasted one more day, I would be able to leave, but I just couldn't take it any more. On that day, I was beaten by a group of men. I crawled on the floor, naked, begging for my life. I couldn't help but do what they demanded and write what they told me to.

On Sept. 26, I was taken to the public prosecutor's office. As we passed by Sobu Station, I thought that the streets that I knew so well and the blue sky were still there. The blue sky had returned to my life. I felt a swell of emotion as I thought what a blessed thing the sky is. When I was taken off the elevator on the fifth floor of the public prosecutor's office, I saw my wife. I showed her and Chae Jong Soon, the wife of Lee Ul Ho, my heel. I could also see a group of about 10 laborers working on a rooftop across from the waiting room. I thought that the sweat and creative capability of human beings continues. That is the power that moves history. At that moment I thought, "OK. I'll start over again." I resolved to start my life again.

But since I was transferred to the detention center, I have been continually threatened and intimidated. To reveal the truth of my ordeal, to be true to justice and to secure the demand made by so many people that we drive out the military dictatorship and protect the rights of all prisoners of conscience, and to live like human beings, I hope that the incidents about which I have told you will be investigated thoroughly.

(Concluded)

1985: Beginning of S. Korean Economic Ruin (2)

(Continued from the previous issue)

"Can I keep my job?

There is no doubt that there is a tremendous difference between the world economy in the 1980s and that in the 1970s.

We would not be able to live in the 80s with the theory of the 70s.

It is necessary not only to change the way of thinking but also to change the management principle of our economy so as to survive.

We should have chosen to extricating ourselves from the state of economic dependance by carrying our reforms and controlling the export-oriented economic structure.

We should also have sought to change the economic foundation for economic independence.

We have not gone through a difficult process of restoring the foundations of our industry.

We must have shifted our economy to an "economic for life" from the economy for growth."

I have no doubt that such a new choice would be possible only on the basis of a "national consensus".

The second oil crisis in 1979 and enormous change in the world economy before and after that were events shocking enough to convince us that it is impossible to maintain an export-oriented economy.

They convinced us of the fact that it would be increasingly difficult to attain growth through export by introducing foreign money.

However, the economy of our country in the 80s has been managed without any consideration of or reflection on what had happened in the 70s.

Despite the tremendous change in the world economy, our economy has been managed in the same way as it was in the 70s which had long gone away.

South Korea still follow the policy of increasing only export by introducing foreign loans.

As a result, all the conditions surrounding our country's economy have extremely aggravated and no part of the economy can be in a normal state.

The aggravating economy and the sluggish export have produced a large number of unemployers.

The unemployment issue is said to be a "factor threating social stability." This is no exaggeration.

The number of job seekers is increasing and those who were kicked out of their jobs are also growing in number as the days go by.

All these are the consequence of the economic growth policy of our country.

What if job seekers increase so as to "threaten social stability?"

When the economic prospect is so "dark" and there is no prospect for improvement, there will be no room for jobs to unemployees.

The unemployment issue is posed as the most serious question of all the economic issues facing south Korea today.

It has already reached a point beyond control by the efforts of individual business enterprises.

Speaking simply, what need is there for workers when a factory closes its doors?

Now can a factory continue full operation when production is halved?

The effect is already seen in many areas as the theory of economic growth in the 70s applied to south Korea in the 80s.

The first is the question of foreign debt.

It is now so serious that the general public is talking about a "foreign debt crisis."

Many people believe that the accumulated foreign debts are now beyond a critical line.

The total amount of external debts in 1984 reached $43.2 billion which surpassed half the annual growth national product of $81.1 billion.

This means that every man of the nation owes nearly $1,000.

More surprisingly, the principal and interest paid in 1984 amounted $7.06 billion.

Foreign debt increases by $22.8 billion during 5 years

Some people insist that south Korea should follow the new Peruvian government in adopting the "10% repayment method", or the method of returning its foreign debt within a limit of a 10% of the annual export amount.

Some people talk about "freezing foreign debts."

However, none of these methods can be applied to south Korea, as its economy cannot be maintained without additional introductinon of foreign loans.

Most external funds are supplied by the U.S. and Japan.

Therefore, the present south Korean economy can't be maintained without almost absolute dependence on the two countries.

Therefore, the Peruvian example cannot be applied to us.

Moreover, in order to adopt any of these methods it is necessary for a country to attain "national consensus" first of all, and it is also essential to realize unity between the administration and the people.

People are seriously concerned over the "foreign debt crisis" because it has become a factor for oppressing our economy and our life.

Without extricating ourselves from the "depths of debt" or without independence, not only today's life but that of the future generation will be infringed upon by huge amounts of debts.

(To be continued)

1st Winter Asian Games Begin

The DPRK athletes respond to the cheers of the crowd at the Makomanai Stadium on March 1 during the opening ceremony for the first Asian Games in Sapporo, Hokkaido, Japan.

The First Winter Asian Games "Sapporo 1986" were opened on March 1 in Japan and were attended by 7 delegations of the DPRK, China, Hong Kong, India, south Korea, Mongolia and Japan.

The DPRK delegation consisted of 29 members of the organization committee and 52 athletes, headed by Pak Myong Chol, vice chairman of the Korean Sports Guidance Committee and the DPRK Olympic Committee. They arrived in Japan in two groups respectively on Feb. 19 and 25 at Narita Airport.

In an interview held on Feb. 26 at the Sapporo Prince Hotel, Pak Myong Chol, head of the DPRK delegation, thanked the organization committee for its hospitality and mentioned that the DPRK athletes included the youngest and oldest players among the attendants of the games.

DPRK athletes are attending the games from March 1-8 and are to attend a cross-country, speed skating, short-track, ice hockey, figure skating, biathlon and an Alpine event.

Two Korean boys of the third-generation, Kim Chang Hwan, 17 and Kim Chol Sung, 14 are to attend the men's short-track event and figure skating.

Results of the DPRK team will be in the next issue of The People's Korea.

NEWS DISPATCH FROM PYONGYANG

For. Dels. to the DPRK (Feb. 7-28)

Feb. 7
* A delegation of the Zimbabwean Group for the Study of the Juche Idea.

Feb. 10
* A Tanzanian government economic delegation headed by K. Malima, Minister of State of the President's Office in Charge of International Cooperation of the United Republic of Tanzania.
* A delegation of the National Council of the Hungarian Patriotic People's Front headed by Secretary Garamvolgy Jozsef.
* A delegation of the Costa Rican National University headed by Rector Edwin Leon Villalobos.

Feb. 14
* A delegation of the General Congress of Workers Unions in Building and Wood Industries of Libya headed by General Secretary Mohamad Abdulla Hadid.

Feb. 21
* A delegation of the Union of Socialist Youth of Yugoslavia headed by Silvija Zugic Rijavec, President of the Presidency of the Conference of the union.

Feb. 24
* A delegation of the Maritime Fleet Ministry of the Soviet Union headed by Vice Minister Viktor Nikolaichuk.
* A delegation of the Union of Bulgarian Writers headed by Vice Chairman Slav Khristov Karaslavov.

Feb. 28
* A Chinese radio and television delegation headed by Ai Zhisheng, Minister of Radio, Film and Television of the People's Republic of China.

DPRK Dels. to For. Countries (Feb. 5-26)

Feb. 5
* A delegation of the parliamentary group of Korea headed by Ryo Yon Gu, Vice Chairman of the Standing Committee of the Supreme People's Assembly, to attend the consultative meeting of presidents of groups of inter-parliamentary union of socialist states to be held in Poland.

Feb. 12
* A trade union delegation of Korea headed by Kang Jong Pal, Vice Chairman of the Central Committee of the General Federation of Trade Unions of Korea, to attend the 25th trade union congress of Hungary.
* A Korean sports delegation headed by So Un Hae, Vice Chairman of the Korean Physical Culture and Sports Guidance Committee to visit Syria.
* A delegation of the DPRK Radio and Television Broadcasting Committee to attend the Fifth World Conference of Broadcasting Unions to be held in Czechoslovakia.

Feb. 15
* A government economic delegation of Korea headed by Om Dok Hwan, Vice Minister of External Economic Affairs, to visit Cameroon and Sierra Leone.
* A delegation of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea headed by Kim Hwan for a visit to Thailand.

Feb. 17
* A Korean public health delegation headed by Minister Li Jong Ryul for a visit to China.

Feb. 18
* A delegation of the DPRK Olympic Committee headed by Kim Yu Sun, Chairman of the Korean Physical Culture and Sports Guidance Committee, for a visit to China.

Feb. 19
* A Korean government delegation headed by Choe Tae Bok, Chairman of the Education Commission, to attend celebrations of the 10th anniversary of the proclamation of the Saharan Arab Democratic Republic.
* A Korean government economic delegation headed by Choe Jong Gun, Minister of Foreign Trade, for a visit to the Soviet Union and Malaysia.
* A delegation of Kunroja headed by Deputy Editor-in-Chief Li Jong Nam for a visit to Czechoslovakia and Bulgaria.

Feb. 22
* A Korean trade union delegation headed by Chairman of the Central Committee of the General Federation of Trade Unions of Korea Kim Bong Ju for visits to Italy and Czechoslovakia.

Feb. 23
* A delegation of the Workers' Party of Korea headed by Kang Song San,

(Continued on page 7)

Korean Classical Films Come in Rapid Succession

Three brand-new films produced by the Shin Film Studio: "the Story of Chong", "the Story of Hong Gil Tong", and "Pulgasary" have just been released.

The films were based on well-known Korean stories that the people loved so much.

"The Story of Chong" has been handed down by word of mouth from the 18th century. It was brought to the screen once in 1925 and again after the liberation in 1957. It has also been used in many operas and plays.

"The Story of Hong Gil Tong" is from a classical novel written by Ho Gyun at the beginning of the 17th century.

"Pulgasary" is the first film with a monster in it set in Korea. It is also based on an old Korean fairy tale about the monster Pulgasary which eats steel.

In this issue we introduce "the Story of Chong": the story of a Korean girl whom the director Shin Sang Ok uses to depict the contradictions and corruption of the feudalist society.

The film "the Story of Chong" is a musical based on a Korean folk tale of the same title.

The musical "the Story of Chong" has been put out by Director Shin Sang Ok and Choe Un Hui, his partner, who have already caused a widespread sensation with another musical "My Love."

In a village there lives a very obedient girl called Sim Chong with her blind father. She takes most devoted care of her poor father despite all hardships. One day she is told that if 300 bags of rice are offered to the Buddha, her father will restore his eyesight. But they are so poor that they can't get so much rice. Therefore, she sells her body for 300 bags of rice and is thrown into the raging sea of Rimdang as a sacrifice to pacify the angry sea deity.

The Dragon King is deeply impressed by Sim Chong's filial devotion, and he has her wrapped up in a flower and returned to the human world so that she becomes the queen. Happy as she is, Sim Chong can't forget her blind father who must be living alone now. Informed of this the king summons all the blind from across the nation to a banquet in an endeavour to find Sim Chong's father.

Sim the blind who suffered many an ordeal after being deprived of his daughter is finally reunited with her. But he doesn't believe she is alive before he hears her sing a lullaby which he used to sing for her when she was a child. "Oh, my goodness!" exclaims old Sim, happily excited. "Are you really Sim Chong my daughter? Then, let me take a look!" He hugs the daughter and opens his eyes, and to his great surprise, he can see everything before his eyes.

What is filial piety? What is human morality? You will get the answer in the film to this question raised in human life yesterday and today.

Through the filiality of Sim Chong this masterpiece portrays with profundity the noble and beautiful heart of the Korean woman and laudable manners and customs peculiar to the Korean nation.

"You are so dear to me, and if I recover my eyesight by selling you off, what's the good of it, Sim Chong?!" cries Sim the blind in agony. "I wish you to recover your eyesight and see the light of the world again; don't worry about me, your unfilial daughter," says Sim Chong and throws herself into the angry waves.

Each scene is a gem. And in order to get it Shin Sang Ok used the Beijing film studio of China, the Bavaria film studio of West Germany and again the Pyongyang film studio of Korea.

Among others the shooting of fantastic underwater scenes will no doubt take a special place in the history of film art.

Planned and directed by Shin Sang Ok and the heroine's mother played by Choe Un Hui, "the Story of Chong" is the fifth ambitious work produced abroad by this good combination.

"The Story of Chong" unfolds an unboundedly beautiful and mysterious world of fantasy possessed only by the Orientals.

After Sim Chong threw herself to the sea of Rimdang, the Dragon King wrapped her in a lotus flower and carried her out of the water.

Korean Cartoonist's 5th Exhibition

Chae Jun, a Korean cartoonist working for the Choson Shinbo Co., a Korean-language daily published in Tokyo, held his 5th exhibition from Feb. 18-23 in Ginza, Tokyo.

The exhibition followed his previous ones in 1978, 1981, and twice in 1984. In his most recent exhibition he portrayed the lives of 2nd and 3rd generation young Korean nationals living in Japan by focusing on the complex problems they have faced here.

Mr. Chae's career as a cartoonist has spanned 30 years during which time he has earned a reputation for his skillful use of satire when attacking the enemies of the people. He has stood for the people.

He has a strong sense of wit and does not pull his punches when dealing with sensitive subjects. Consequently his style is unique.

Twenty-two pictures were displayed in the exhibition. Among them were "Fortitude", "Extinction of Koreans", and "Free Democracy" which portrayed the Japanese Government's hostile policy towards resident Koreans.

"Fatherland" illustrated how Korean nationals living in Japan still look to their fatherland as their spiritual base.

"Wall" portrayed the situation of Korean nationals who fell victim to the "Two Koreas Policy" of the U.S., whether they belong to the north or to the south.

Chae explained, "Korean nationals in Japan are caught in a very complicated political situation which is due to the division of their country. But even in Japan they live dignified lives as proud citizens of the DPRK defending their just rights.".

"We can't live meaningful lives as overseas citizens of the DPRK without our country".

"In the past I drew 'the past and present of Korean nationals in Japan' chronologically from the Japanese colonial rule to present day 'children and girls in south Korea who suffer from the division of the country under the dictatorial regime of the U S. backed Chon Junta' ".

"This time I drew the 2nd and 3rd generation of Korean nationals in Japan in keeping with the changing situation. In fact, the resident Korean nationals can be portrayed by bright colors, and their image is becoming brighter than before".

Mr. Tezuka Osamu ***a well known cartoonist in Japan whose major works include "Atom," an animated picture which earned high acclaim as a pioneer work of Japanese animation history when broadcasted on TV, has made the following comments on Chae's work:***

"Fortitude"

"Free Democracy"

"I think drawings should be the means of fight. His satire is very straightforward and carries a strong message, easy for everyone to understand. The trend in his drawings are getting brighter in color. He harmonizes well sharp colors with soft ones and also exceeds in color arrangement. I was really overwhelmed by his technique".

"Fatherland"

"Extinction of Koreans"

(Continued from page 6)

member of the Political Bureau of the WPK Central Committee and Premier of the Administration Council, to attend the 27th congress of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union.

Feb. 26

* Vice Premier and Foreign Minister Kim Yong Nam and his party for a visit to Indonesia and African countries.

Agreements, Accords between DPRK and For. Countires.

(Feb. 5-26)

Feb. 5

* The 1986-1987 plan for cultural exchange between the governments of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea and the Arab Republic of Egypt was signed in Cairo.

* A protocol on cooperation between the DPRK Radio and Television Broadcasting Committee and the Radio and Television Union of Egypt was signed in Cairo.

Feb. 7

* A protocol on commodity delivery and payments for 1986 and a protocol on the principles of price assessment and revision in trade for 1986-1990 between the governments of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea and the Socialist Republic of Viet Nam were signed in Hanoi.

Feb. 17

* A protocol of the first meeting of the inter-governmental joint committee of Korea and Tanzania was signed in Pyongyang.

Feb. 26

* An agreement on commodity delivery and payments for 1986-1990 between the governments of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea and the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics was signed in Moscow.

(KCNA)

Sports and Culture

Badminton

PYONGYANG February 21 (KCNA)

The Korean badminton team came off the runner-up in the team event at the International Junior Friendship Badminton Games held in Poland.

Rim Chol finished the winner in men's singles and Pak Yong Sil the runner-up in women's singles.

Weight lifting

PYONGYANG February 21 (KCNA)

Korean weight lifters Ro Hyon Il and Kim Jong Nam won the top honor respectively in the 52 and 56 kg categories at the International Youth Weight lifting Tournament for the Kalikristal Cup held in the German Democratic Republic on February 15.

Ro Hyon Il managed a total lift of 220 kg, snatching 95 kg and jerking 12.5 kg and Kim Jong Nam lifted a total of 252.5 kg, snatching 115 kg and jerking 137.5 kg.

Competing in the tournament were more than 80 strong rivals from 12 countries including our country.

Skating

PYONGYANG February 22 (KCNA)

Korean skaters proved successful at the Junior Friendship International Speed Skating Tournament of Socialist Countries held in Moscow.

Ha Yong Il placed first in men's 1,000 metres, Song Yong Hun second in men's 5,000 metres and Kim Chun Hwa also second in women's 1,000 metres. Li Gye Sun finished third in women's 3,000 metres

Wrestling

PYONGYANG February 26 (KCNA)

Korean muscle-man Li Jae Sik placed first in the 48 kg category in the International Catch-as-catch-can Tournament held in Minsk, the Soviet Union, on February 23.

He outplayed a Soviet opponent 13:4 in the finals.

Seoul's Growing Tension

The tension in South Korea is looking more serious. The opposition, obviously emboldened by the example of the opposition in the Philippines, is not taking the government's "no" to constitutional revision for an answer. The government is standing firm; if it is alarmed to see the United States backing away from another authoritarian regime long identified with Washington, it is reacting by indicating that it does not intend to yield to internal political pressures.

The technical issue is whether Korea should stick with indirect presidential elections or move to direct elections. Politically, it's the difference between the military's continuing to wield effective power after President Chun Doo Hwan finishes his term in 1988 and the opposition's having a chance to win. The government equates indirect voting with "sharply confrontational campaigns" and "widespread popular confusion." But this is a non sequitur. There is no good reason why the opposition, made up of people whose commitment to national security and democracy is not in doubt, does not deserve a fair chance at power.

Sponsors of a petition campaign to amend the constitution, a peaceful activity which, grotesquely, the Korean constitution seems to treat as illegal, are being hassled by the police, put under house arrest and selectively prosecuted. Signers, too, are said to be breaking the law – a reading that, if applied literally, could mean jailing all 10 million people whose names are being sought on the petition.

This shows just how foolish the government's policy is. The problem in Seoul does not lie in the opposition's understandable insistence on breaking into the closed political system devised by the military. It lies in the military's forceful imposition of a political structure that does not fit the requirements of an increasingly confident, prosperous and mature society.

The Reagan administration has tended to promote relaxation in South Korea but to fear that it might get out of hand. That has meant encouraging Mr. Chun to treat his opposition more kindly – something that can be done within the existing structure – but holding back from lending American weight to opposition efforts to change that structure. Joining in support of those efforts would likely bring new uncertainty on the Pacific ramparts of America. Going along with the status quo may be bringing new uncertainty anyway.

–Editorial of THE WASHINGTON POST (Feb. 25)

Seoul Must Make a Choice

Does President Chun Doo Hwan of south Korea want to take his country back to the primitive politics that roiled the Philippines or forward to the economic miracles of Japan?

South Korea has a more advanced industrial economy than the Philippines and faces neither insurgency nor insolvency. But there are uncomfortable parallels of political development. Seoul, too, must learn to assure a democratic choice of its next president.

The Seoul regime, like Manila's, declared martial law in 1972 and a decade later freed its leading opponents to seek medical treatment in America. Unlike Benigno Aquino, Kim Dae Jung survived his return and joined another opposition leader, Kim Young Sam, in agitating for a constitutional amendment to shift the 1988 election of a president from a controlled electoral college to a direct plebiscite.

Only Mr. Chun or the government-controlled National Assembly may initiate constitutional change. But the opposition hopes to force their hand by the petition of 10 million voters, half the electorate. Mr. Chun at first condemned the campaign as illegal, broke up opposition meetings and repeatedly placed the two Kims under house arrest. Watching the demise of President Ferdinand E. Marcos in the Philippines, Mr. Chun now admits an overreaction by his police but insists on delaying reform until after the 1988 vote.

The assertiveness of a growing middle class may make this, too, untenable. South Korea is poised to become "the next Japan," seeking to sell sophisticated products like cars in the United States and desirous of the global prestige of the 1988 Olympics. But it is unlikely to make that next leap without a solid political consensus. In the 40 years since its separation from Communist North Korea, South Korea has not had a single peaceful presidential succession. Its people have known only brief interludes of civil liberty.

In democracies, petition drives are not treated as subversive. Demands for the direct election of the president are not put down as revolutionary. Nonviolent opponents are not locked into their homes. Peaceful marchers are not swept from the streets by battalions of police. Observing the fate of another arbitrary ruler, Mr. Chun seems to have been persuaded to re-examine his policies. His road to Tokyo does not pass through Manila.

–Editorial of THE NEW YORK TIMES (Feb. 26)

(Continued from page 1)

Mr. Chun has pledged to leave office in 1988, but his opposition to the campaign for direct elections indicates that he doubts that a government party candidate would prevail in a fair election.

The crackdown should signal the United States that the time has come to promote democratic transition, before the country is engulfed by the same violence that overtook Manila.

The United States faces no armed Communist threat within South Korea; in fact, opposition political figures, church leaders and the great majority of south Koreans share U.S. democratic ideals and are striving to create democratic structures.

Yet the perception that President Ronald Reagan unconditionally backs the Chun government, and the absence of strong public expressions by the United States supporting democratic change – including a constitutional revision to allow the direct election of a president – leave many south Koreans wondering where America stands.

U.S. Ambassador Richard Walker's failure to initiate meetings with either Kim Dae Jung or Kim Young Sam also sends an unfortunate message to south Korean democrats. And while Mr. Walker's private messages of concern to the Chun government are welcome, they have not halted growing anti-Americanism, particularly among students.

Mr. Reagan should appoint a special envoy, with the stature of a Philip Habib (who has served as ambassador to south Korea), to discuss prospects for democracy with south Korean democratic leaders, human rights monitors and student leaders. The envoy should also meet with Mr. Chun and top military figures to deliver the message that the United States will support neither their monopolization of political power nor an undemocratic election that deprives south Koreans of an opportunity to choose their own leader.

The south Korean people – educated, articulate, energetic, anti-Communist – have long been ready for a democratic government. The real question is, is the United States?

Eric Schwartz is program director and Holly Burkhalter is Washington representative of Asia Watch, a human rights organization. They contributed this comment to The New York Times. ***(International Herald Tribune, Feb. 28, 1986)***

Marcos Provides Blueprint For Chon's Downfall

By Paul Calvey
Special to The People's Korea

After an eventful week which saw Marcos desperately struggling to hold onto power, democracy has been restored to the Philippines after a 20 years absence.

Marcos did not step down without substantial pressure being exerted on him. Firstly, the world's media, almost without exception, condemned him. Secondly, the Catholic Church, normally silent as far as political matters are concerned, voiced its support for Aquino. Thirdly, America withdrew its support for Marcos and openly gave intelligence to opposition forces under the command of Defence Minister Juan Ponce Enrile. And the people became united as never before in open revolt against the dictator.

Marcos was left with no choice but to flee taking his personal fortune of millions of dollars stolen from the Filipino people, yet leaving the country with soaring inflation, a falling peso, $26 billion of foreign debt, inhumane poverty and a constitution designed for himself.

Unfortunately the situation in south Korea is not all that different as Chon uses almost identical methods to suppress the people for his own ends.

Like Marcos, Chon came to power by a military coup. Both have been responsible for genocide and the dismantlement of the democratic process and both have existed with the support of U.S. military and economic aid.

The last week has probably brought home to him the reality that his kind of control cannot be superimposed on a people indefinitely. Will the world media now turn its spotlight on Chon now that it has become fashionable to expose dictators. It would make very interesting reading.

Chon has always been fascinated by the military and is a strong believer in military rule. The fact that this is fundamentally opposed to democracy does not bother him.

In the early 1980's, he demonstrated his viciousness in the Kwangju Massacre, when more than 2,000 citizens were indiscriminately slaughtered and over 15,000 seriously wounded. He ordered his airbourne paratroopers to eliminate over 70% of the population including women and children. The following statement made by Chon in 1979 shows his lack of respect for human life and illustrates the extent to which we will stoop:

"The American tanks drove over three million to death in Vietnam. Had the Americans killed ten million, they could have won the war. We must be ready to kill ten million in order to survive".

Surely a man who is prepared to kill ten million of his fellow countrymen in order to remain in control puts his personal interests before those of the country he supposedly serves.

Recently the New Korea Democratic Party and the Council for the Promotion of Democracy have attempted to gather ten million signatures demanding that the president be elected by popular vote. However, this genocidal maniac in his inimitable style has been hard at work attempting to suppress the increasing agitation for constitutional change by the courageous south Korean people.

In response Chon had hundreds of riot police cordon off the home of Kim Dae Jung and had his telephone cut. He was also placed under house arrest for the ninth time since returning from exile in the U.S. a year ago. Another 16 people who were members of either the NKDP or the CPU were arrested.

This year alone more than 450 students have been arrested for showing support for constitutional reform. Last week police raided 111 universities and vocational schools in an effort to stop the spread of the signature campaign. Education Minister Sohn Jae Souk called a meeting of university heads to demand that they institute a program of ideological education – a blatant attempt to brainwash south Korean youth. In the wake of this the government has stated that it would not tolerate any attempt by the democratic movement to seek coordination with students.

The U.S. propaganda machine makes a big show of championing human rights and boasts that its president is the true choice of the American people. However, they do not advertise the fact that they prop-up dictators and support regimes where the contrary is the case.

When Kim Dae Jung and Kim Yong Sam began collecting signatures for the petition Chon's henchmen stated that this would "create social unrest" and warned that long jail sentences would be given to any signatories. The Second World War resulted in a log of 'necessary' social unrest in order to stop the spread of facism. It is obvious that social unrest will be the outcome at attempts to establish democracy in a facist dictatorship. However, military oppression of the people is an abhorent form of social unrest depending on which way you look at it. Nò doubt Hitler would have accussed the Jews of being responsible for social unrest.

NKDP president Lee Min Woo, with the same conviction that led Cory Aquino to victory replied, "Our 600,000 party members should prepare for jail." And Kim Dae Jung vowed, "if we continue to struggle, democratization will be realized".

The beginning of Chon's downfall could be seen last week when senior officials of the U.S. administration criticized Chon's strong-arm tactics. A State Department spokesman was quoted as saying "It is inconsistent with basic democratic principles to deny citizens the right to petition their government".

Chon has said that he will hand over the presidency to an elected successor just before the Summer Olympics in 1988. However, he wishes to do this under the present constitution, which would allow his successor to act like a dictator once elected. We have all learned from Marcos that the pretence of democracy is not good enough. Chon has also made it clear that he wants to suppress any public debate concerning these matters untill after the Olympics. This is a very astute move by Chon. He realises that the inherant corrupt nature of his rule will be exposed when the world media descends on Seoul in 1988 and in the light of the lessons he has just learned from Marcos this is something he desperately wants to avoid.

We can only hope that the new wind of change blowing through Asia that brought about the downfall of Marcos continues to blow in the direction of south Korea.

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